मौसम के आरंभ में पिछले बचे स्टॉक के कम होने के परिणामस्वरूप, रूई की कुल उपलब्धता संभवत: घरेलू आवश्यकताओं को पूरा करने के लिए ही पर्याप्त होगी। वर्तमान कीमत स्थिति को देखते हुए अब तक कोई भी निर्यात कोटा रिलीज़ नहीं किया गया है।

Nationalisation of Peerless General Finance and Investment Company

2535. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a delegation of the Peerless Karamchari Samiti met the Prime Minister and submitted a memorandum urging him to intervene and safeguard the interests of lakhs of depositors and thousands of employees of the Peerless General Finance and Investment Company as reported in the *Hindu* dated the 23rd September, 1988;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that the Samiti has urged upon the Government to nationalise the Company; and

(c) if so, what is the reaction of the Government thereto and what steps Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Reserve Bank of India has issued a new set of directions known as "Residuary Non-Banking Companies (Reserve Bank) Directions, 1987" with effect from 15th May, 1987 which are applicable to companies like Peerless. These directions provide in built safeguards regarding investment of funds collected as also for the safety of deposits made with the companies, apart from enabling the depositors to get a reasonable return on their deposits.

2536. [*Transferred to the 5th December, 1988*]

Reduction in import duty on Amino Acid

2537. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Amino Acid a component of poultry feed is being imported in the absence of production within the country which attracts a cumulative import duty of 181.75 per cent thus striking at the very root of the viability of the Indian poultry farming; and

(b) whether Government propose to undertake a review of the levy of import duty structure on this commodity to enable the poultry farming community to operate at a viable level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) Amino acids such as DL-Methionine and L-Lysine which are not produced in India are imported for incorporating in poultry feed. These amino acids on import attract a total customs duty of 147.25 per cent *ad-valorem*, which is the general rate applicable to chemicals.

(b) The impact of import duty on amino acids on the prices of poultry feed is not significant. There is no proposal at present to review the import duty structure of these amino acids.

Balance of Payments Position

2538. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the current deficit in regard to the country's balance of payments; and

(b) what are the figures of exports and imports as on November 1st for